

EDITORIAL

Resist the fascism of the corrupt Marcos regime!

The protest movement against corruption and bureaucratic capitalism under the US-Marcos regime surges forward. Across the country, walkouts, rallies, and marches continue in schools, communities, factories, and offices. Suffering and burdened by hardships, people are firmly expressing their outrage at the massive thievery of billions of pesos of public funds by corrupt officers reactionary government.

Marking the 53rd anniversary of the Marcos dictatorship's martial law declaration on September 21, a hundred thousand people flooded the streets of Manila and other cities. Condemning Marcos as the mastermind behind corruption and the anomalous flood-control projects, tens of thousands marched toward Mendiola. Their voices echoed all the way to Malacañang. The nation's pent-up anger, especially among the youth, erupted. They were met with brutal repression by the police.

On Marcos' direct orders to suppress the youth and people who voiced grievances and displayed their anger, police with truncheons and guns, attacked with fury. Gunshots

and grenade explosions rang out. Left and right, rallyists and anyone on sight were blasted with water cannons and accosted. A worker was shot dead on the street by police gunfire. At least 277 people, including ten minors, were taken to various police stations, illegally detained, abused, tortured, and charged with a barrage of offenses.

Marcos displayed his fascist fangs in an attempt to intimidate the people and stifle the growth of their street protest actions. Seeking to divide the people, Malacañang claimed the "chaos" in Mendiola was caused by "a few agitators." Contrary to Marcos's aims, the people grew more

united. The cry for the release of the 277 arrested Mendiola rallyists brought together different sectors—students, urban poor, workers, lawyers, church people, cultural workers, and others.

Instead of being cowed, the people's burning anger toward the corruption and anomalies of the Marcos regime grew even stronger. In the following days and weeks, more and more students staged campus walkouts to join rallies both inside and outside their schools—from the north of Luzon to Mindanao. Almost no day in the past weeks went by without a protest action expressing the people's demand for justice and clamor to change the rotten system.

Facing the continuing wave of protests, the Marcos regime is working double time to calm the people's fury with hollow shows of "investigation." However, the non-public hearings of the so-called "independent commission" only strengthens the people's belief that this is a mere cover-up to conceal the full extent and mastermind of the corruption—Marcos himself and his closest officials. People smell the stench of conspiracy among the corrupt to evade and escape the punishment demanded by the people.

The thunderous voice of the people is shaking the entire ruling system. The putrid scent of corruption reeks throughout the country. More and more anomalies are being exposed—



from flood-control projects to bridges and farm-to-market roads, classrooms, as well as military-camp buildings and beautification, billions in intelligence funds, the "balik-baril" program, and more. Allied and rival politicians are pointing at one another. The strife between the Marcos and Duterte factions continue to heighten. The Senate and the House of Representatives are neck-deep in the filth of corruption. Even those who claim to be clean have mud on their faces.

Bureaucratic capitalism and its rotten system currently governed by Marcos—king of corruption and number-one fascist terrorist—are being fully exposed. The people's voices grow louder and wider, calling for the ouster and punishishment of every corrupt official who has stolen public funds, led by Marcos and fellow thief Vice President Sara Duterte, and for an end to the entire rotten system that burdens the people.

As their cries and resistance continue to grow, the people must further

strengthen their ranks to condemn, fight, and thwart the attacks of the fascist state. The police's violent crackdown in Mendiola is only a reflection of the broader and systematic abuse by the armed forces of the reactionary state against the rights of the people, both in the cities and countryside. To preserve the ruling system, Marcos is now deploying the full power of the fascist state. In sev-

eral hundred barangays in the rural areas under military control, cases of extrajudicial killings, illegal arrests, torture, and other serious human-rights violations occur left and right.

The Marcos regime will inevitably fail to stop the ongoing surge of the protest movement against corruption. The social upheaval of students and youth expands and gains strength. They bring vigor and deter-

mination into the people's protest movement. Their enthusiasm and resolve will only increase when they surge not only into the streets but also through the alleys of communities, the roads leading to factories, and to the remotest parts of the country.

The challenge to young people is to merge their ranks with millions of workers and the vast masses of semi-proletariat or urban unemployed, as well as with the peasant masses in the countryside. In the coming weeks and months, the ruling system will be shaken further by the protest movement against corruption and bureaucratic capitalism as it spreads nationwide and

draws an even-broader segment of the population from both the urban and rural sectors.

Organized national-democratic forces must remain at the core and forefront of the democratic protest movement to ensure it remains determined, militant, and steadily advancing. They must assiduously raise the people's consciousness by linking the struggle against corruption to the revolutionary struggle to overthrow the three plagues of imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucratic capitalism. This can be achieved through protracted people's war and armed struggle to end the semi-colonial and semifeudal system, and establish a truly democratic government and a free and progressive society.



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 ang.bayan@cpp.ph	

Protests mount against the Marcos regime's corruption

Protests and demonstrations by democratic classes and sectors continue to break out in various parts of the country over the past two weeks to condemn the Marcos regime's widespread corruption. These come at the heels of the Luneta Park rally by a hundred thousand Filipinos Park in Manila and the subsequent march to Mendiola.

During the massive protest on September 21, confrontations broke out in Mendiola and along Recto. Videos captured the police's brutal attacks, assaulting the youth with batons, beating and dragging them on the ground. Reports show police firing their weapons and shooting tear gas.

The youth and people did not cower before the aggression and brutality of the Marcos regime's armed forces which violently dispersed the protests and clashes. Police arrested at least 277 individuals, including 91 minors, the youngest being only nine years old.

Police gunfire killed construction worker Eric Saber with a shot in the neck. Saber had just come from his job in Pasay City, got off at Recto Station, and was crossing the street to ride a jeepney when he was shot from behind. He was brought to the hospital but died on September 23. Also killed during the confrontation was 15-year-old protester Mark Chustin Serbo, who was stabbed by a 52-year-old civilian.

The arrested and detained experienced cruelty at the hands of the police. Among them were children and youth, students, workers, BPO employees, and others picked up by police simply for being near the clashes. Authorities began releasing the detainees only on September 25 after prolonged and

delayed police and court processing of their cases. Many had to post bail to be released from multiple charges.

Arrested minors were also released after being unjustly treated as melee participants with no clear investigation. Some of them were even publicly presented by Manila City Mayor Isko Moreno Domagoso before the media, violating children's rights and due process of law.

Human rights groups called for a full and independent investigation to hold all perpetrators of the violence accountable. They also condemned the state for "covering-up" its crimes against the people.

People taking action

The anti-corruption movement continues to take the form of walk-outs, picket protests called Black Friday Protests, and town-level demonstrations by various sectors and groups. Thousands continue to show force in Metro Manila, Isabela, Bulacan, Pampanga, Laguna, Palawan, Naga City, Davao City, Davao Oriental, and other cities and provinces.

Following a series of walkouts in the first three weeks of September, unprecedented walk-outs took place at Far Eastern University (1,000),

University of Santo Tomas (1,500), De La Salle University-Manila and College of St. Benilde (1,500), Philippine Normal University (1,000), Isabela State University (500), DLSU-Laguna, UP Visayas (800), Ateneo de Davao University (1,000), Brokenshire College Inc., and Davao Oriental State University. Even in concerts and sports events, chants of "Jail the corrupt!" erupted among the youth.

Hundreds of teachers and education workers also walked out to protest against corruption and to mark World Teachers' Day on October 3.

In Bulacan, the epicenter of corrupt flood control projects, broad unity is forming among residents against graft. People in 12 of the province's cities and towns have taken action and are standing up to both local and national government agencies implicated in corruption. They continue to form groups and alliances.

The growing protests reflect the deep discontent of the Filipino people amid the economic and political crisis battering the ruling system. This movement manifests the widespread sentiment of the masses suffering from corruption and the worsening ills of the semicolonial and semifeudal system.



Marcos: King of corrupt bureaucrat-capitalists

Ferdinand Marcos Jr is absolving himself of the anomalies and corruption being exposed in connection with flood control projects. He pretends to be innocent and even feigns interest in holding accountable those who stole public funds.

Like the previous Duterte regime's use of a "matrix" that named politicians as supposed drug lords, Marcos uses a list of select and limited contractors involved in corrupt projects as a weapon against his competitors for public funds. He established a supposed independent commission to conduct an "investigation" but has kept it from public scrutiny.

The depth and breadth of systemic and systematic corruption at every level and corner of the state bureaucracy have been revealed. Hearings in Congress and the Senate exposed the collusion between Malacañang, congressmen, senators, contractors, and officials from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and even the Commission on Audit and banks, to siphon off and pocket billions in public funds. Revelations showed bloated project costs, the use of substandard materials, incomplete projects, and reports of non-existent or ghost projects.

The public was shocked by reports of hundreds of millions in cash allegedly stuffed into suitcases and delivered to the houses of Zaldy Co, a congressman who held the powerful appropriations committee and aide to then House Speaker Martin Romualdez. It highlighted the extravagant lifestyles of the Discaya family and the children of contractors who secured hundreds of infrastructure projects. Corrupt engineers from the DPWH and Bulacan districts

revealed how senators Chiz Escudero, Jinggoy Estrada, and Joel Villanueva shamelessly demanded their cut in person.

However Marcos tries to, he cannot deny the fact that he is at the center of stinking anomalies in his government. It is his office that leads and oversees the formulation and finalization of the national budget, which has become a milking cow for bureaucrats. Even in the budget's preparation, he secures his share in the form of confidential and intelligence funds, allocations for the Maharlika Fund, and funds for unprogrammed appropriations (UA) that serve as his personal pork barrel. Marcos's UA funds are massive— from the historic ₱807 billion in 2023, ₱731 billion in 2024, and a projected ₱363 billion in 2025.

Between 2022 and 2025, Marcos allocated ₱545 billion for 9,855 flood control projects. Over 6,000 of them were revealed as defective, redundant, or incomplete. His office and department secretaries included these projects even during the drafting stage of the National Expenditure Program. Before finalizing the national budget, congressmen and senators inserted additional and larger corrupt allocations through a small group in Congress and the bicameral conference committee of Congress and the Senate. Marcos signed the bud-



get into law.

In October, ACT Teachers Party-list Rep. Antonio Tinio revealed in Congress that Marcos himself approved and funded no less than 3,700 additional projects worth ₱214.4 billion from his UA funds for 2023–2025.

Official state data show that in 2023 Marcos allocated ₱61.4 billion in UA funds to the DPWH for 1,889 projects, and ₱153 billion in 2024 for 1,811 projects. The largest portion—₱141 billion—was for flood control projects, while the remainder went to repairing roads and multi-purpose buildings. Most projects funded by Marcos's UA are located in Central Luzon, Calabarzon, and Cebu—regions under investigation for defective and ghost projects.

A Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism special report also revealed earlier that Marcos received ₱21 million from two contractors as contributions to his 2022 candidacy, in violation of reactionary election rules.

AB

NPA metes punishment against asset in the killing of Ericson Acosta and others

THE REVOLUTIONARY movement punished 15th IB intelligence asset Garde Francisco, who faced multiple crimes against the revolutionary movement and civilians.

He was killed during a New People's Army (NPA)-Southwest Negros (Armando Sumayang Jr) raid at his house in Sitio Lumbia, Barangay Kamansi, Kabankalan City, Negros Occidental on the night of October 3.

Francisco was involved in three major cases of killing civilians, revolutionary leaders, and Red fighters on Negros Island.

One of his cases was assisting the military in the killing of National Democratic Front (NDF)-Negros peace consultant Ericson Acosta, and fellow peasant leader Joseph Jimenez in Barangay Kamansi on November 30, 2022.

Francisco was also involved in the state armed forces' massacre of unarmed NPA medical officers, including a six-month pregnant woman, and a civilian driver in Barangay Tabugon on September 21, 2023. Francisco was also implicated in the martyrdom of the Kabankalan 7 in Barangay Tapi on April 27.

NPA-Southwest Negros spokesperson Ka Andrea Guerrero said the armed action was in pursuit of justice for the victims of state attacks and served as a reminder to those with "blood debts" to the revolution. "Your past crimes will not be forgotten, and the NPA will continue to fight for justice," she said.

In Samar, the NPA-Western Samar (Arnulfo Ortiz Command) fired first in an encounter against 8th ID troopers operating in Sitio San Pedro, Barangay Poblacion 3, San Jose de Buan on the afternoon of September 27. One soldier was killed, and many of the fascist butchers were wounded.

In Oriental Mindoro, the NPA-Mindoro (Lucio de Guzman Command) thwarted the attack of the 203rd IBde and the 2nd CMO Battalion troopers on its temporary base in Sitio Badyang, Barangay San Roque, Bulalacao on October 1. The people's army organized a counteroffensive that disrupted the enemy formation, forcing them to retreat.

On September 25, the NPA-Mindoro also actively defended against the 203rd IBde attacking forces in Sitio Barayong, Barangay Manuol, Mansalay. Three 203rd IBde soldiers were killed, while several others were wounded in the said encounter.

Allies gather against incinerator project in Manila

HUNDRED OF RESIDENTS of Smokey Mountain and other Tondo barangays, religious leaders, and environmental groups gathered on September 30 at San Pablo Apostol Parish Church in Manila to establish the Manila Anti-Incinerator Alliance (MAIA). Held in observance of the Day of Action Against Incineration, the gathering opposed the plan to build a ₱26-billion waste-to-energy (WTE) incinerator in Barangay 128, Smokey Mountain.

The project is a 100-megawatt WTE incineration plant promoted by the Manila Integrated Environment Corp. (MIEC), a company controlled by Philippine Ecology Systems Corp. (PHILECO) owned by businessman Reghis Romero II. It is supported by the Japanese company Kanadevia Corporation, and will be constructed under the large-scale Port Modernization along the Manila port.

The plant is among the priority projects of the Marcos regime and the local government of Manila led by Isko Moreno. Experts warn about the health hazards from the incinerator's smoke emissions. In addition, its construction will displace more than 2,000 families or 23,000 residents and vendors from the site.

Modi regime kills two captured CPI (Maoist) leaders

ARMED FORCES OF the Modi regime secretly detained for more than 10 days and willfully killed two Communist Party of India (Maoist) Central Committee members on September 22. The Modi regime claim the two were killed in an encounter in Abujhmad to cover up its crime and escape culpability.

Indian armed forces reportedly captured Comrade Katta Ramachandra Reddy (Raju Dada) and Comrade Kadari Satyanarayana Reddy (Kosa Dada), both unarmed, in Raipur City, Chhattisgarh state, on September 10. They were allegedly taken to a secret location between September 11 and September 20, where they were possibly subjected to severe torture before being killed. "The encounter is a lie. Everyone must condemn this," Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee representative Vikalp said.

Besides the two, five other leaders and members of the Central Committee and Eastern Regional Bureau of the CPI (Maoist) were also willfully killed in the past month. They were all likewise portrayed as casualties of encounters. The party honored all the martyrs who gave their lives amid the Modi regime's brutal Operation Kagar.

Military kills 3 in the Visayas

The Marcos regime and its armed forces have relentlessly sowed violence against the people in recent weeks. Two cases of killings, shootings, and harassment of mass leaders in the Visayas have been recorded.

On the night of October 5, the combined forces of the military and police killed Roberto Cabales and farmer Matteo Suarez in Barangay Coto, Lambunao, Iloilo. The police and military claimed that the two fought back while being served arrest warrants. The revolutionary movement in Panay refuted this accusation and said that the two were unarmed.

In Samar, the 43rd IB and the paramilitary group Dos killed 65-year-old farmer Veronico "Tatay Birong" Anterio on September 16 in Barangay Carolina, Matuguinao. He was targeted for having served as a voice of resistance against the military rule of the 43rd IB and the paramilitary group Dos over their community. Anterio bravely faced the fascist 43rd IB to denounce its oppressive measures and encampment on Barangay Carolina.

Shootings. Guards and private armed forces indiscriminately fired at farm workers in Hacienda Escolastica, Barangay Mabini, Cadiz City, Negros Occidental on September 30. The shots injured seven farmers. The guards also destroyed and stole the farmers' corn crops. They are being harassed for fighting for land rights in the hacienda.

Harassment. On September 29, police filed a complaint for violation of Batas Pambansa 880 or the Public Assembly Act against Cebu mass leaders Nanay Bebe Allere of Panaghupong-Kadamay, Bagong Alyansang Makabayan-Central Visayas' Jaime Paglinawan, Bayan Muna's John Ruiz, AMA-SUGBO-KMU's Howell Villacrusis, and others. The complaint is related to an anti-corruption protest at the Cebu City District Engineering Office of the Department of Public Works and Highways Region VII on September 5.

Meanwhile, the 503rd IBde also harassed and Red-tagged Beatrice "Betty" Belen when they visited her in Barangay Uma Del Norte, Lubuagan, Kalinga on September 28-29. She is the current Innabuyog-Kalinga chairperson and a former political prisoner.

AB

Moro people oppose third BARMM election postponement

THE COMMISSION Elections (Comelec) postponed for the third time the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) parliamentary election, which had supposedly been scheduled for October 13. This follows the Supreme Court declaring the unconstitutionality of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Act 77 (BAA 77 or Redistricting Bill) that sought to transfer to other BARMM districts seven parliamentary seats originally allotted to Sulu.

The court ordered the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) to create a new district division and submit it to the court by October 30. It also rescheduled the election to the end of March 2026. This laid to waste the ₱1.2 billion already used by Comelec in preparing for the election.

The Moro people view the renewed postponement as another failure to implement genuine autonomy in their territories. Before the decision was released, they had already opposed Comelec's suspension of preparations under the Supreme Court's temporary restraining order against BAA 77. They asserted that the election is not only about voting. More importantly, it represents respect for autonomy, recognition of peace agreements, and strengthening of the Moro people's right to self-determination.

Disinformation envelopes Duterte's ICC case

ON SEPTEMBER 29, 21 organizations of lawyers and human rights defenders asked the International Criminal Court (ICC) to impose disciplinary action on Rodrigo Duterte's lawyer, Nicolas Kaufman, for repeatedly distorting and spreading false information related to Duterte's case. The groups include Karapatan, the Duterte Panagutin Network, and Rise Up for Life and Rights.

They said Kaufman twisted actual events and statements to mislead the court. One of these was his claim that both the prosecution and the government of the Philippines agreed to the petition for Duterte's interim release. Both the prosecution and the government of the Philippines denied this.

A few weeks earlier, the ICC released three important documents that support the case against Duterte: the Document Containing the Charges (DCC), a list of 181 pieces of evidence, and a pre-confirmation brief dated July 4.

The DCC contains three counts of crimes against humanity that could have been read before Duterte has the confirmation of his case proceeded on September 23. Although the case filed is incomplete and limited, victims already consider the DCC "an important step towards accountability."

**Negros residents oppose
planned entry of GMO**

NEGROS RESIDENTS recently formed the GMO-Free Negros Coalition, an association of 82 individuals and organizations from the peasants, non-governmental organizations, church people, students, academics, hotel and restaurant owners, and the private sector to oppose and resist the proposed entry of GMO (genetically modified organism) crops into the province.

They demand enforcing provincial ordinances prohibiting the entry, planting, breeding, testing, and distribution of live GMOs on the island.

In 2023, San Miguel Corporation expressed interest in investing in the province for a feed mill and poultry project. To proceed with the project, the local government proposed an ordinance on August 26 allowing corporations to plant GMO corn.

On September 30, the coalition submitted four position papers to the provincial board challenging the proposed ordinance. Youth students from various councils, organizations, and publications also held a protest in Bacolod City on September 18 to express their opposition.

The National Democratic Front-Negros also expressed strong opposition. It stated that allowing GMOs into the province would further plunge farmers into poverty as it would force them to rely on imported and foreign corporations controlled GMO grains and inputs. The group added that GMOs are health hazards due to their biological effects, including allergies, antibiotic resistance, cancer, and long-term damage to human internal organs.

**JMS Legacy Museum inaugurated
in The Netherlands**

THE JOSE MARIA Sison (JMS) Legacy Museum officially opened in Utrecht, The Netherlands on September 19. Ka Joma's widow and fellow revolutionary Ka Julie de Lima led the inauguration along with friends, supporters, and local city officials.

The JMS Legacy Museum is a space that showcases Ka Joma's life and legacy. It is managed by the JMS Legacy Foundation, which hopes that the museum will inspire future generations.

Visitors can see in the museum Ka Joma's life as a committed revolutionary, a true internationalist, a respected intellectual, and a well-known poet. The museum displays several videos of Ka Joma's final interviews, his photos, documents, and more. The museum is open to those who wish to come and visit.

Marcos, number one pest to farmers

THE NATION MARKS every October as Farmers' Month. This year, the Marcos regime is working double time to boost its image after more than three years of failed and burdensome agricultural programs. Farmers consider him the number one pest, worse than the disasters that ravaged their farms and damaged their livelihoods.

After September's successive ravaging typhoons, the government placed agricultural losses at a conservative ₱2.3 billion. Rice paddies suffered the most damage. In connection with this, Marcos launched an "emergency palay procurement" supposedly to help rice farmers.

Farmers said Marcos's program came too late since farmers are already suffering during this harvest season. In Guimba, Nueva Ecija, 80% of rice had already been harvested and sold very cheaply. Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas data shows that wet palay farmgate price dropped to as low as ₱7 per kilo, while sun-dried palay farmgate price ranged from ₱13 to ₱14 per kilo in different parts of the country.

"We sink further into poverty. We can no longer recover, stuck neck-deep. We are in worse ordeal than a carabao stuck in mud," a Guimba farmer said.

While mired in floods and poverty, farmers feel further insulted by bureaucrat capitalists' exposed large-scale corruption of public funds, particularly in flood control and infrastructure projects. Many rural areas are suffering heavily from poorly planned and anomalous projects.

Further worsening this poverty are the Rice Liberalization Law and the widespread landlessness among farmers. The state last conservatively estimated that 72% of farms are not fully owned by farmers. This has been aggravated by the New Agrarian Emancipation Act and the Support to Parcelization of Lands for Individual Titling, which are merely repackaged versions of the rotten Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program.

Rampant are evictions and land grabbing for land use conversion under the framework of Build-Better-More (BBM), mining, renewable or green energy projects, and others. The recently enacted 99-year Foreign Land Lease will further worsen all of these.

Feudal and semi-feudal exploitation in Eastern Visayas

Eastern Visayas ranks second in having the fewest farmers who own land, and fourth in having the most landless tillers. This indicates the continuing feudal and semi-feudal exploitation of peasants in the area.

The region only has an estimated 17.6% of more than 1.89 million farmers, or 209,240, who can be considered “land owners,” while 82.4% or 980,000 are landless, which could even rise when including the 84,825 “land owners” but categorized as “owner-like possession”—those who occupy land without title and are vulnerable to eviction from the farms they till. Meanwhile, 5,835 hectares of farmland in the region are owned by only 97 corporations.

About 67% of the region's farms are mainly devoted to cash crops or products exported to foreign markets. The region ranks sixth among top coconut producers and second in abaca. Rice fields account for 23.6% of the total farmland area in the region, and most of these still rely on rainwater. Between 2014 and 2024, only 1,023 hectares of rice fields were added to coverage of irrigation services.

Many farms still rely on carabaos, and manual threshing and pounding of rice. There are only 129 tractors, 2,586 harvester threshers, and 1,199 rice mills available in region's more than 4,000 barangays. Only a few landlords have control over other essential production equipment.

In rice fields, coconut farms, and abaca plantations, 75-25 and 50-50 share tenancy arrangements are widespread. There is also the “tinulo” (one-third) arrangement which, in practice, is also 75-25. Farmers actually earn far less be-

cause they shoulder almost all production expenses.

Usury is also severe in the region. Lenders number 3,175, with 73% being individual moneylenders. Microfinancing institutions also exploit the farmers' situation. A study revealed interest rates reaching 144%-163% over six months, or 24%-27% per month.

“Cash to palay” lending schemes are also typical in areas with vast rice fields. In this arrangement, every ₱1,000 pre-harvest loan must be repaid with two sacks of palay after harvest. This is equivalent to buying palay at ₱10 per kilo despite the ₱15 per kilo prevailing market price.

A pawn or mortgage system is also in place, which is also used as a means of land grabbing. Another example of usury in the region is the mortgaging of teachers' ATM cards or the honoraria of barangay officials and employees. A study showed that usurers can earn 6-9% interest per month depending on which quarter of the honorarium is pawned.

Low wages also prevail, where ₱350 is the highest for construction work, clearing rice fields, and coconut farm work. In copra production, workers earn ₱5 per tree for harvesting fruits, ₱15 per 100 pieces for hauling coconuts, and

₱30-₱35 per 100 pieces for husking. In other areas, pay for hauling is set per sack, amounting to ₱3 per kilo for transporting products beyond two kilometers.

In rice harvesting, the “winalo” (one-eighth) arrangement is common, while some use the “inupat” (one-fourth) arrangement. In these, for every eight or four gantas or sacks of harvested rice, seven or three go to the landowner and only one to the harvester.

Cheating in farmgate sales is also prevalent through weight manipulation. In coconuts, a high deduction rate for moisture content is imposed. A study showed that 56 kilos are deducted from 600 kilos of copra due to moisture calculation. At a price of ₱20 per kilo, landlords-entrepreneurs gain ₱1,120 for every 100 kilos of copra.

Faced with multi-layered problems in Eastern Visayas and across the country, farmers have no other course but to collectively exterminate the Marcos regime pest and eliminate the feudal and semifeudal exploitation which they endure everyday.





KA CLEO DEL MUNDO
new NPA-ST (Melito Glor Command)
spokesperson, successor to Ka Roger, Ka Bart, Ka Diego, and Ka Armando Cienfuego



Special Issue

**INTENSIFIED
US MILITARY
INTERVENTION,
WORSENER
SUBSERVIENT OF
THE MARCOS REGIME**



\$337.7 TRILLION
global debt in the second quarter of 2025, \$21 trillion higher than the first quarter. Biggest debt increases were from the US, China, France, Germany, Britain, and Japan.

₱1.64 billion
released by Marcos as **bonus** for fascist AFP personnel at end of September to counter the renewed Duterte camp destabilization plot.

165,000
shortage in classrooms, 150,000 teachers, 144,000 support staff, millions of books, and other teaching materials.

HK\$110
or ₱803 meager increase in wages of **Hong Kong** domestic helpers, far from their demand of HK\$1,072 (₱7,825.60) to meet the minimum living wage in the city.



70+
died in the **6.9 magnitude** earthquake in Northern Cebu on September 30. Thousands of residents are currently suffering from the slow pace of government relief.



₱145 billion
agricultural produce of **Bukidnon**, the highest nationwide in 2024. Despite this, the province has the highest number of impoverished families in Region 10. The large disparity stems from land being concentrated in commercial plantations while farmers suffer widespread landlessness.

Celebrate the second anniversary of the Al Aqsa Flood! Freedom for Palestine!

On October 7, the world marks the second anniversary of the historic Al Aqsa Flood, the armed offensive launched from land, sea, and air by Palestinian forces led by Hamas and the Izz ad-Din al-Qas-sam Brigades against the occupying power, Israel.

The offensive ignited the Palestinian people's aspiration to end Israel's 75-year war of aggression. The US supported the occupation of Palestinian territories, including the continuing siege of Gaza and attacks on West Bank communities.

Over the following two years, aided by imperialist US and allied European countries, Zionist Israel relentlessly bombed Gaza's civilian population. It destroyed hospitals, churches, schools, apartments, buildings, and even evacuation centers.

It killed more than 66,500 Palestinians, including 18,500 children. Another 453 died from malnutrition and hunger. It killed a total of 254 journalists. In March, Israel completely blocked aid from entering the city, while Israeli soldiers and American mercenaries weaponized aid distribution to kill Palestinians. In September, the United Nations Commission of Inquiry very belatedly declared Israel's actions in Gaza as genocide.

Free Palestine!

People worldwide have witnessed the legitimacy of the Palestinians' armed struggle for liberation from the occupation and genocide of Zionist Israel. People united to express their outrage at the genocide while pressing their governments to stand with the Palestinians. Millions of people joined and relentlessly launched thousands of actions in various

forms, in different parts of the world. Nations from Africa, Asia, and Latin America joined forces to launch a legal campaign against the occupation and hold it accountable for war crimes.

In November 2024, the International Criminal Court issued arrest war-rants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former defense minister Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity. The International League of Peoples' Struggle and the International Association of Democratic Lawyers will hold this coming November the International People's Tribunal for Palestine to document and judge the war crimes, genocide, ecocide, and mass starvation Israel and the US committed against Palestinians.

In August, composed of 44 ships carrying more than 400 people, the so-called Global Sumud Flotilla sailed to deliver services and aid to Gaza. Although the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) blocked the ships on October 2, the participants resolutely stood to relentlessly try breaking Israel's siege of Gaza.

Even Israeli citizens have been resisting and opposing their own government's actions.

Many young Israelis have chosen imprisonment rather than enlistment in the IDF.

In the Philippines, organizations continue to act in support and solidarity with the Palestinian struggle, such as the Youth for Palestine and the Palestine-Philippines Friendship Association. Campaigns have also been launched to stop the US-Marcos regime from purchasing weapons from Israel. Overseas Filipino migrants have likewise joined actions advocating for the liberation of Palestine.

At present, Hamas, Israel, and the US are negotiating based on a program for peace talks on Gaza drafted by US President Donald Trump, which disregards the will of the Palestinian people themselves.

Despite enduring annihilation, Palestinians continue their resistance through armed and unarmed struggle. Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine member Leila Khaled said the liberation of the Palestinians will inevitably come, for the peoples of the world now stand with them and will continue to fight until they finally achieve freedom from genocide and occupation.

